

done so to send in their cards with their subscriptions. Follow-up letters are expensive, and we need the money for other purposes.

Won't you please help make this list as small as possible by returning your card at once, so as to decrease the expense in connection with follow-up letters?

Please bear in mind that the American Medical Association is the guest of the State Medical Society, and that every member of the Society should do his duty as one of the hosts of the convention.

#### OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO PHYSICIANS AND HOSPITALS

The Judicial Council of the American Medical Association has rendered the following opinion on a point that vitally concerns every hospital that wishes to be classed as an agency of scientific medicine:

"The board of control of any hospital (not maintained by general taxation) has the legal right for reasons sufficient to the board to refuse the privileges of the hospital at any time to any practitioner, regardless of his so-called school of practice. The fact that the person applying for permission to bring to and treat in the hospital a particular patient is licensed by the State to practice does not alter the situation. The medical staff of a hospital likewise has the moral right to refuse to accept as an associate any person whom the staff may consider objectionable for reasons sufficient to the staff, and should insist on maintaining that right."

#### TO CORRECT AN ERROR

In listing medical organizations on the front cover of the March Journal, through a typographical error "The Radiological Society of North America" was listed as the "American Radiographical Society."

#### MODERN MEDICINE EXPLAINED BY A MORO SERVANT

[The following is a copy of a letter sent by a Moro servant of an American to his brother. The letter is published by permission of Drs. Walter C. Alvarez and Saxton Pope.—Editor.]

In the name of Allah the merciful and the compassionate, Amen.

This letter from Barahim will arrive to his brother Ali Hassan in Zamboanga.

We are here in Sandakan, my master Alvaring and I. He is sick in a large house which they call a hospital. I pass my time on the verandah of this house, and see many strange sights which are only seen by those who enjoy the favor of the English doctors and those who are sick.

These English people cure by means of strong smells which I think according to their religion must frighten away the saïtans (devils) djinns, and other genii which cause illness. The whole house smells frightfully of their strong smells. I asked the Chinese Tukang Ayer (Watercarrier) if it was true that the place always bore these strong odors and he said, "Yes, it is the custom of the English." They sprinkle each morning on the floors water into which they pour medicine which has a strong stench. Also they wash towels and clothing in these liquids. The Chinaman mentioned above said that this gives a virtue to the healing of wounds.

They do not torture me in their healing except through starvation as they will not allow him to eat anything except soup. However, there

is an old man (white) whom they torture daily. His leg is broken which has caused him to remain in bed for five months. This has made sores on his back. It is not their custom to allow him to rest in peace, but each day they lift him on his bed and torture him by pouring on his back the strong smelling liquors I have already told you about. They also cut his flesh with scissors and knives, and have no pity when he cries out. The Chinese aforementioned says that there is merit in healing with this torture, and that it is the custom of the white people. They also truly cure by this means, as he claims to have seen it with his own eyes.

There is a young and comely Chinese girl who is held in reverence even by the white Tuans (lords). She scolds them and they do not even make reply, but only smile. This may be due to weakness of the brain due to their respective sicknesses, however. She has the title of "nurse," which I believe is an honorable title with the white people, as they treat her with respect and call her "sister" in their own language.

There is also a "pare" (Catholic priest) who comes each day to the place and talks with the white people who are sick. He talks but little to my master, however, and my master tells me that his chief interest is with those of his own religion and those about to die.

Please tell our mother that I will send to her by first vessel, five pesos, out of which I wish her to buy me one peso of dried shrimp and the rest she may keep. This is from my wages, the result of toil and not from easy gains from gambling.

May peace be with you and all good Mohammedans.

The end.

**A Development in Industrial Medicine**—Carroll S. Bucher, Inc., is a new workmen's compensation service organization in San Francisco which goes beyond the point of giving legal advice only. In fact, it has embraced about every angle of the workmen's compensation act as affects employer and employee, as it furnishes surgical, medical and hospital treatment for injured employees; physical examination of employees and applicants for positions; sanitary and safety engineering and inspections of premises; administrative and clerical service concerning the industrial accident commission and the compensation act, including legal services when required.

Carroll S. Bucher, who is executive director of Carroll S. Bucher, Inc., was formerly compensation attorney for the London Guaranty & Accident at San Francisco. In his new organization he has brought together a staff of medical men who stand high in their profession, including Dr. Walter B. Coffey, who is medical director; Dr. Walter Baldwin, consulting surgeon; Dr. Leo H. Eloesser, plastic surgeon; Dr. James T. Watkins, orthopedic surgeon; Dr. Walter F. Schaller, neurologist; Dr. W. W. Boardman, diagnostician; Dr. Wm. F. Blake, injuries to the eye; Ray Benjamin, attorney for the insurance commissioner of California; and W. B. Cole, sales manager.

The corporation says it will make no charges for administration and clerical services in providing its clients the complete benefits of reports, investigations and trial work before the commission. It announces that good feeling between employer and employee will be stimulated, efficiency increased and the number of accidents reduced. The corporation, Mr. Bucher says, will furnish physical examinations for the purpose of better classification. Investigation, surveys and research, to develop lower ratings is another service which the corporation will give. "The reduction of compensation and medical payments means a reduction in the premium rate for those employers who are insured," says Mr. Bucher. "Such reduction is the result of immediate emergency treatment and organized and efficient medical and executive service." The corporation has offices at 603 Butler building, San Francisco.—Underwriter's Report, February 22, 1923.